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POLLUTION REPORT

DATE: October 7, 1992

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FROM: LEONARD ZINTAK, OSC REGION V, FTS 886-4246

SUBJECT: FISHER-CALO CYLINDER SITE (RV4) - KINGSBURY, INDIANA

FINAL POLREP

RV4 Removal Completion Date - July 6, 1992

Funding: PRP FINANCED REMOVAL

NPL Status: NPL Site

SITE ID #: NB

SITUATION:

The Fisher-Calo Cylinder site is located within the boundaries of the Fisher-Calo Superfund site on Second Road in the Kingsbury Industrial Park, Kingsbury, LaPorte County, Indiana. The Fisher-Calo site consisted of 258 compressed gas cylinders and 6 lecture bottles located in 2 buildings at the Second Road facility. The cylinders contained hazardous substances including ammonia, chlorine, hydrogen chloride, methyl chloride, and sulfur dioxide.

Alexander Chemical Corporation (formerly Cardinal Chemical) purchased the compressed gas division of Fisher-Calo which included the compressed gas cylinders at the Second Road facility. Although Alexander Chemical Corporation claimed that the compressed gas cylinders found in the Second Road facility were not included in the compressed gas division purchase, they agreed to perform a removal action at the site.

ACTIONS TAKEN:

Before Alexander Chemical Corporation agreed to perform the removal action, U.S.EPA initiated a fund-lead removal action. A compressed gas cylinder expert was subcontracted to perform a cylinder inventory at the site. Information including cylinder contents, manufacturer, and owner of the cylinders as well as the cylinder markings, condition, and approximate volume was gathered on-site November 19 through 23, 1992 by the cylinder expert.

After Alexander Chemical Corporation agreed to perform the removal action, a work plan was submitted to the U.S.EPA for evaluation. After approval of the work plan and site health and safety plans, the removal was initiated. On April 27, 1992, the site health and safety meeting was held. Removal activities began the following day. All of the cylinders were transported approximately ½ mile from the site to the Alexander Chemical

Corporation facility on One Line Road for treatment and disposal or reconditioning.

The contents of the cylinders were evacuated and reclaimed beginning April 28, 1992 and ending May 15, 1992. The emptied cylinders were also inspected, cleaned, and reconditioned, or scrapped during this time period. Overall, 58 of the 258 compressed gas cylinders were verified as empty. The remaining 200 compressed gas cylinders were evacuated and cleaned. Out of the total of 258 cylinders, 240 cylinders were scrapped, 13 were salvaged, and 5 were returned to their owner(s). In addition, the 6 lecture bottles were also returned to their owner(s).

Alexander Chemical Corporation used some of the contents of the cylinders in their processes, generating a number of products. Chlorine recovered from the cylinders was reacted with sodium hydroxide to produce sodium hypochlorite. Sulfur dioxide recovered from the cylinders was reacted with sodium hydroxide to produce sodium bisulfite. Other hazardous substances found in the cylinders were transferred to new cylinders if they were not used to generate product.

From May 15 through May 22, 1992, the cylinders were either put back into service or sent off-site for ultimate disposal. Air monitoring for ammonia, sulfur dioxide, chlorine, hydrogen chloride, and methyl chloride was conducted during the removal activities. Small leaks occurred during some of the operations but were suppressed upon detection.